

REMARKS**Present Status of the Pending Claims**

In the current Advisory action, the Office has held the previous arguments were acknowledged and well taken but deemed insufficient to warrant a grant of patentability, while the Office is willing to compromise if Applicants places at least a portion of claim 8 into claim 1, i.e. said ventilation mechanism includes a first disc plate constituting the other end of said rotating drum and having an air vent consisting of porous parts arranged in a ring shape around the axial line of said rotating drum.

In response thereto, Applicants respectfully take the suggestion of the Office by incorporating said allowable feature of claim 8 into claim 1, rendering the rejection of claim 1 moot. Claims 8 and 12 are accordingly amended.

Upon entry of the proposed amendment as advised by the Office, claims 1-6, 8-10, and 12-29 remain pending in the application. Since claim 1 is allowable over the prior art of record, claims 2-6, 8-10, 12-24, and 29 directly or indirectly dependent from the allowable claim 1 also stand allowable as a matter of law.

On the other hand, claims 25, 26, and 28 are already allowed.

Claim 27 has been amended to encompass the allowable ventilation mechanism which includes a first disc plate constituting the other end of said rotating drum and having an air vent consisting of porous parts arranged in a ring shape around the axial line of said rotating drum. This feature has been held patentable as indicated in the Advisory action and previous Office communications, and therefore claim 27 containing this patentable feature is allowable over cited prior art of record.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the previous Office action, claims 8-10, 12-14, 23, and 24 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

As discussed above, the base claims on which claims 8-10, 12-14, 23, and 24 depend, are submitted to be allowable. As such, claims 8-10, 12-14, 23, and 24 are also submitted to be allowable.

Claims 25, 26, and 28 would be allowable.

Claims 25, 26, and 28 remain unchanged from their allowable form, and thus the allowability thereof should also be maintained.

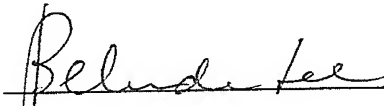
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all the pending claims 1-6, 8-10 and 12-29 of the present application patently define over the prior art and are in proper condition for allowance. If the Office believes that a telephone conference would expedite the allowance of the above-identified patent application, the Office is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Belinda Lee
Registration No.: 46,863

J. C. Patents
4, Venture Suite 250
Irvine, CA. 92618
Tel: (949) 660-0761
Fax: (949) 660-0809
E-mail: jcpi@email.msn.com